

St. John's United Church of Christ

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

10 A.M. Worship February 11, 2024
Transfiguration

WE GET READY FOR THE WORD

Prayer of Preparation

Speak to us mighty One, for we are eager to listen. Bless us, as we cry out to you for strength and vision. You have acted in times past to save your people. Save us now. You have sent prophets to change the world. You have granted light in Jesus Christ. Let us see your glory. Lift us to the mountaintop in this time of prayer. We pray, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

*(Please note the * indicates when you should stand.)*

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you

And also with you

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

"His Name is Wonderful"

Mieir arr. Pethal

*The Call to Worship

One: God summons us from the Sun's rising to its setting.

All: Our God comes and does not keep silence.

One: God gathers those who are faithful..

*Opening Prayer *(In Unison)*

God of our Sabbath times, from whose presence we can never hide and whose purposes are always beyond our understanding, teach us to use our Sabbath times in ways that are pleasing to you and helpful to others. May we be instruments of healing, not instigators of division. Make us bearers of life-giving good news, not purveyors of death. Fill us with hope that we may share with the world, in Jesus' name. Amen.

* Hymn

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

(over ->) .

452 Open the Eyes of My Heart

O - pen the eyes of my heart, Lord. O - pen the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you; I want to see you;

to see you high and lift - ed up,

shin - ing in the light of your glo - ry. Pour out your

pow - er and love as we sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly."

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, I want to see you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

One: The whirlwind pace of our lives becomes so all-consuming that we may forget our origins. Our busyness separates us from knowledge of God's glory in the face of Christ. Now in these quiet moments apart from our everyday distractions, we seek to renew our relationship with God and be restored to wholeness.

All: When the gospel is veiled from us, mighty God, we feel alone. How easy it is to lose our direction and go the wrong way! At times, we feel as if we are perishing under the demands of our day, unable to see the clearly what is most important. We become enslaved to our routines and enticed by shallow distractions. We fill all our hours with doing so there is no time for reflection and prayer. Forgive us, O God, and restore balance to our lives. Amen.

Words of Grace

One: Receive the transforming gift of life from God. Rejoice in the good news of new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

All: We receive the good news of new life in Christ. Allelujah! Have you not known? Have you not heard? God does not grow weary with us, but loves, forgives, and renews us. Go with renewed strength in your walk of faith.

Special Music

"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Lemmel arr. Sanborn

Time for the Child in us All

Rev. Rich Brandon

Scriptures: Mark 9:2-9

One: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Message

* Hymn	<i>"We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding"</i>	
We have come at Christ's own bidding to this high and holy place, where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God's grace. Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain, searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.	Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline, we, like Peter, find it tempting to remain and build a shrine. But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess, that our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.	

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*In Unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Give Generously

(Thank you for being so generous in your care of St. John's UCC and its mission, through your participation and giving. Your stewardship makes a difference. You may make your offering several ways including in church, online, by text at 833-502-0657, or mail. We are grateful for your support.)

*Doxology (*In Unison*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication (*In Unison*)

**Use our gifts, mighty God, to bring light where there is gloom, peace where there is turmoil.
May Jesus Christ be proclaimed among us and around your world. May righteousness and justice prevail. We dedicate ourselves and our offering to these ends. Amen.**

WE GO FORTH TO SERVE

* Hymn	<i>"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"</i>	vs. 1,3,5
Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run, his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.	Let every creature rise and bring the highest honors to our King, angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.	

Benediction

Postlude

"Shine Jesus Shine"

Kendrick arr. Hayes

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Preaching: **Reverend Carl Dollgener**
Director of Music Ministry: **Ruth Notch**
Liturgist: **Lynn Potts**
Usher Team: **Ken Ruff**
Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
Fellow & Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
Flautist: **Jennifer Adams**
Song leaders: **Kathy & Mike Scherr**
Children's Time: **Rev Rich Brandon**
Duets: **Ellen Brandon & Ruth**
Evelyn Weber & Ruth

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Announcements

Global Ministries requests that we pray with **Fiji** this week

We pray for **Barb Ackerman, June Evers, Elizabeth Hart, Sue Kinnaman, Cherie Messina, Barbara Tretter and Gloria Vaclavik** Please let us know your prayer concerns

Rick Wagner expresses his gratitude to the congregation for their thoughts and prayers.

2/18/24 Service

Preaching: **Rev. Susan King**
 Liturgist: **Danny Mueller**
 Usher Team: **Jim Pisoni**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellow & Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Children's Time: **Danny Mueller**
 Special Music: **Handbells**

2/25/24 Service

Preaching: **Rev. Donna Pupillo**
 Liturgist: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Usher Team: **Larry Sontag**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellow & Lockup: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Children's Time: **Laura Dierberg Ayers**
 Special Music: **Flautist**

03/03/24 Service

Preaching: **Rev. Mary Blaufuss**
 Liturgist: **Erin Armstrong**
 Usher Team: **John Bartelt**
 Technology: **Steve Hawkinson**
 Fellow & Lockup: **Jan Boehm**
 Children's Time: **Rev. Mary Blaufuss**
 Special Music: **Piano Duet & Cello**



Pastor Katie Jo will be joining us on **March 4** as our new Pastor and we would love to welcome her with cards from as many members as possible. You may drop them in the offering plate, give to a Council member, drop them by the church office, or mail them to the church office. For your convenience, we will have some cards available both at Fellowship Hour and in the Sanctuary.

... Looking Ahead February ♥

2/11	11:00 AM	Cemetery Board Meeting
2/12	4:30 PM	Christian Education Committee
2/14	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service
2/18	10:00 AM	1 st Sunday of Lent
2/18	11:00 AM	Ted Gottlieb "Senior Living Community"
2/19	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
2/19		Presidents' Day (<i>office/ECC closed</i>)
2/20	12:00 PM	ECC early dismissal
2/22	6:00 PM	Table Fellowship at Paul Manno's Chesterfield
2/23	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
2/25	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
2/25	10:00 AM	2nd Sunday of Lent
2/25		Global Ministries Pray for Ecuador
2/25	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
2/27	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship

more at <https://www.stjohnsuccchesterfield.org/fellowship>

Please check your News Notes/Website for specific information around upcoming activities

... Looking Ahead March



3/3	10:00 AM	3rd Sunday of Lent
3/3		Communion Sunday
3/3		Global Ministries Pray for Egypt
3/3	11:00 AM	Senior Ministry Meeting (<i>library</i>)
3/4	9:00 AM	Pastor Katie Jo's first day in the office
3/6 – 3/7		ECC Parent Conferences
3/8	8:00 AM	Biweekly Newsletter
3/9	6:30 PM	Bingo, doors open at 6:30
3/10	10:00 AM	Pastor Katie Jo's first Service
3/10	10:00 AM	4th Sunday of Lent
3/10		Global Ministries Pray for Japan
3/11	4:30 PM	Christian Education Committee
3/17	10:00 AM	5th Sunday of Lent
3/17		Global Ministries Pray for Myanmar
3/18	6:30 PM	Council Meeting
3/18 to 22		ECC Spring Break
3/22		Biweekly Newsletter
3/24		Global Ministries Pray for Cuba
3/24	9:15 AM	Loaves & Fishes
3/24	10:00 AM	6th Sunday of Lent
3/24	11:00 AM	Mission Meeting
3/26	6:30 PM	Bunko Women's Fellowship
3/28	6:00 PM	Table Fellowship at TBD
3/28		Maundy Thursday
3/29		ECC No School
3/29		Good Friday
3/30		Holy Saturday
3/31	10:00 AM	Easter
3/31		Global Ministries Pray for Greece